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PAGE 13



HALIFAX

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Monday, December 17, 2012



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## STORM ROADBLOCK

Halifax Rainmen's Melvin Goins, left, tries to get around Summerside Storm's Nick Evans, right, while his teammate Greg Plummer watches during National Basketball League play at the Halifax Metro Centre on Sunday afternoon. Halifax was hammered 113-90 by the Storm and have now dropped two-straight. Story, see page 20. JEFF HARPER/METRO

## HRM parents to get letter over shooting

**Offering reassurance.**  
School board says they have safety procedures in place

The Halifax Regional School Board is reaching out to parents in the wake of the unthinkable elementary-school shooting in Newtown, Conn.

A letter from Judy White, superintendent of the board, will be sent home to families on Monday.

"We want to reassure parents that we do have safety procedures in place," Doug Hadley, spokesperson for the school board, said on Sunday.

"The tragedy that happened in Connecticut is an unfortunate reminder that we'll have to do everything we can to ensure our students are safe."

Hadley said teachers are also prepared for students to ask questions when they go back to school Monday, and



Eknoor Kaur, 3, stands with her father, Guramril Singh, during a candlelight vigil on Sunday in Newtown, Conn. JASON DECROW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

will be looking out for those having difficulty coping.

"We understand that students might be experiencing some difficulty trying to make sense of that," he said.

The board's letter comes three days after a man opened fire in Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, killing 26 people, including 20 children, around six and seven years old.

The shooter has been identified as Adam Lanza, a 20-year-old who police say first killed his mother before driving to the elementary school and opening fire on two classrooms

before taking his own life.

After news of the shooting spread, many people, including in Halifax, used social media as a platform to express their grief and anger over what had happened.

President Barack Obama visited Newtown on Sunday to attend an evening vigil for the victims and mourn with the community. Obama will also visit privately with families of the victims and emergency personnel who responded to the shootings. **HALEY RYAN/METRO**

More coverage, pages 9 & 10

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# Kids and dogs: Keeping peace in the home

## Man's best friend.

Recent biting incident prompts local trainer to remind owners, parents of their responsibilities



**RUTH DAVENPORT**  
ruth.davenport@metronews.ca

A local dog trainer says dog owners and parents can, and should, do more to ensure interactions don't end in hospital visits and headlines.

A four-year-old girl was hospitalized and a dog taken from its owner after the dog bit the child in a Cole Harbour home on Dec. 9.

The incident generated considerable coverage because the dog is a pit bull, but statistics suggest the scenario plays out in thousands of Canadian households every year.

"A lot of it has to do with a lack of supervision and making sure a dog is used to the type of roughhousing a child may do," said Tristan Flynn, who holds qualification from the Certification Council for Pet Dog Trainers.

According to the Canadian

### How-to

Flynn's top tips for child-dog interactions:

- Condition your dog as much as possible.
- Let it happen on the dog's terms.
- Supervise, supervise, supervise.

Hospitals Injury Reporting and Prevention Program, most non-fatal dog bites involve kids between five and nine years old, and happen in a home environment when the child is "playing with dog."

"Most of it is a lack of understanding of body language and a lack of listening to the dog," said Flynn.

Flynn emphasized the importance of owners conditioning their dog to accept imperfect handling through positive reinforcement.

"When a dog gets its tail pulled, that shouldn't be the first time it experiences that, if it's a child doing it," he said. "It should be something you practice: You pull the dog's tail, you



Local certified dog trainer Tristan Flynn hangs out with Honey and Kira, both members of the pit-bull breed, and Freya, back. Flynn says conflicts between kids and dogs of any breed can be avoided through positive conditioning. JEFF HARPER/METRO

give it a treat. You condition them so that if a child happens to do it, it's not a big deal."

Flynn said dogs should be allowed to approach visitors in their own time and never forced to submit to petting,

kisses or play.

Kids should ask permission before approaching a dog, and should let the dog sniff the back of a hand before trying to pet.

Above all, Flynn said an adult should closely monitor all

interactions.

"Any child should not be with a dog unsupervised," he said. "That's not just to protect the child, that's to protect the dog, because a child can overwhelm a dog who is stressed."

## Pound pit bulls indicate lack of training

Managers at HRM's pound say the number and condition of pit bull and pit-bull mixes in their care suggests a critical lack of education among owners.

Hope Swinemar, manager at Homeward Bound City Pound, said pit-bull breeds are tied with Labrador retrievers for the breed most taken in over the last year.

However, there's a startling discrepancy in the number of

dogs reclaimed by owners.

"On the Labs, it's 73 per cent, but only 44 per cent of the owners came back for their American Staffordshire terriers," said Swinemar. The terriers are one breed of pit bull.

The next-lowest reclamation rate, by breed, is for German shepherds, at 48 per cent.

Swinemar says it's not unusual for the pit bulls to come in with medical conditions, suggesting the owner may not

have been able to provide care.

Assistant manager Tracy Sullivan said most unclaimed pit bulls are around 18 months old, and tend to show up with no discernible training.

She said most people don't realize the high-energy, strong dogs have a puppyhood that can last three to four years, and suspects 18 months is when an unprepared owner might throw in the towel.

"They're coming in with no

training in place, and they're just bouncing off the walls," she said. "I think the owners are done, they just can't figure out why the dog isn't settling down."

The pit-bull breeds are naturally good-natured, and new owners are often required to complete obedience classes to complete the adoption.

"If they're trained, there's no more risk than with any other dog," said Sullivan. "It's

just that people who are buying this breed for the look aren't willing to put training into them."

RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO

Exclusively online

For more on this story, visit [metronews.ca/halifax](http://metronews.ca/halifax)

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**NOVA SCOTIA**



Laura Jessome was last seen alive on May 2. FACEBOOK PHOTO.

# Two men charged in connection with Jessome murder

**Investigation continues.** Cape Breton woman found dead in hockey bag last May

Cape Breton Regional Police have arrested and charged two Glace Bay men in connection with the murder of Laura Jessome earlier this year.

On Sunday, police charged 37-year-old Brian Augustine Deruelle with accessory after the fact to murder. He was remanded to the Cape Breton Correctional Centre in the late afternoon, and will appear in Sydney provincial court Monday morning.

Robert Edwin Matheson, 49, was arrested in Dominion on Friday morning.

He was charged Saturday with accessory after the fact to

### Quoted

**"The same amount of people who were on it a month ago are still on it now."**

Desiree Vassallo, police spokeswoman, police aren't saying if any other arrests are imminent, but the amount of resources — including 10 police officers — devoted to the case will remain substantial.

murder, remanded to the correctional centre and will appear in court today as well.

Police spokeswoman Desiree Vassallo said Cape Breton Regional Police Chief Peter McIsaac will answer media questions on the case Monday morning at police headquarters.

"The police will continue to investigate the case until they've gotten all the people that are involved," Vassallo said late Sunday.

Jessome, who was found in a hockey bag floating on the Mira River near Marion Bridge on May 25, was last seen alive May 2 in the New Aberdeen area of Glace Bay.

Since the discovery of her body, the investigation has seen police search some Glace Bay locations and come up with several pieces of evidence.

The nature of that evidence was not released until early November, when police informed the public about a pair of hockey gloves and a blue backpack, discovered by divers, in hopes of spurring new information to help solve the murder of the 21-year-old Northside woman.

Vassallo would not say if the tips obtained about the hockey gloves and backpack had anything to do with the arrests.

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On the loose

## Suspects sought in home invasion

Police are looking for three men after an armed home invasion.

Police say the suspects demanded some items, rummaged through the Windmill Road apartment in Dartmouth and eventually left. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Medicinal misuse?

## Over two dozen charged in bust

Twenty-eight men and women have been charged after an 11-month investigation into allegations that some of them were misusing medical marijuana licences.

About 120 officers from the RCMP, Halifax and



CONTRIBUTED

Truro police forces arrested 29 people on Thursday, 28 of whom are facing 97 charges.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Deadly fire

## Police treating two deaths as homicides

Police have launched a homicide investigation into the deaths of two men whose bodies were found after a fire on the eastern shore.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Frenzies Clothing

## Cops investigate store robbery

Police in Antigonish are investigating a robbery at a local clothing store.

The RCMP say at 4:40 p.m. Saturday they were called to a robbery at Frenzies Clothing Store on Post Road.

A man entered the store and demanded cash from an

employee while threatening them. The suspect then fled the store with an unknown amount of cash in what police believe was a dark-coloured pickup truck.

**METRO**

On the web

For more local news go to metronews.ca



# Ex-resident of black orphanage heads to court

**NSHCC.** Province still hasn't decided on whether it will call public inquiry into abuse allegations



**RUTH DAVENPORT**  
ruth.davenport@metronews.ca

A court hearing is scheduled this week to hear a motion to dismiss legal claims from a former resident of the Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children.

The Children's Aid Society of Halifax is asking the Nova Scotia Supreme Court for a summary judgment against Tony Smith, who lived in the orphanage as a young boy.

Smith is one of dozens of former residents alleging physical and sexual abuse by NSHCC workers, and the Children's Aid Society is a defendant in several pending lawsuits.

Smith said Sunday the

society believes his lawsuit should be dismissed because too much time had lapsed between the alleged abuse and the court filing.

Smith said the impact of the abuse on his health wasn't identified until years later.

"Technically ... I didn't realize there was an impact on my health until 2001, so I'm within the statute of limitations," he said.

On Thursday, RCMP wrapped up an investigation into the abuse allegations, saying there wasn't enough evidence to proceed with charges.

Smith said the police force should have consulted prosecutors before making the final call.

"Their role is to investigate the facts," he said. "They then become the judge and jury."

Smith is calling on the provincial attorney general to overrule the RCMP decision.

"He has a duty and responsibility in a significant historical event of racial injustice," said Smith. "This definitely fits the bill."



## A silent guardian, a watchful protector: the HMCS Windsor

The HMCS Windsor passes by Dartmouth as the sun sets on the Bedford Basin on Sunday. The submarine was conducting sea trials in the Basin all weekend. **JEFF HARPER/METRO**

## No injuries. Teen pushed to the ground, bag stolen during street robbery

A teenager escaped injury after being robbed over the weekend in Halifax's south end.

Three 14-year-old males were walking home at 11 p.m. Saturday near the intersection of Pepperell and Preston streets when police say two older males

stopped them.

One suspect asked what one of the boys was carrying, and he was pushed to the ground and had his bag stolen, police say.

The boy wasn't hurt and told his parents what happened when he got home.

**METRO**

## Standoff. Man charged after barricading himself at home Sunday night

A 29-year-old is facing charges of theft, breaching a court order and resisting arrest after police encountered a man who barricaded himself in a Dartmouth home Sunday night.

Police say they responded to a home on Churchill Court and tried to make contact to make an arrest, but the man refused

to leave the residence.

Police allege the man had potential access to weapons, and the Emergency Response Team was called in to help with the arrest.

Around 1:15 a.m. Sunday, he was arrested inside the home without incident.

**METRO**

Ruling

- **Class action lawsuit.** A Nova Scotia Supreme Court justice will rule next June whether a

class action lawsuit involving more than 100 former residents can be certified.

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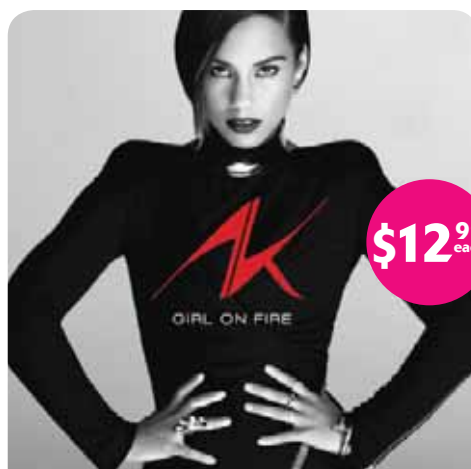
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# U.S. is failing to keep kids safe, Obama says



President Barack Obama walks off after delivering a speech at an interfaith vigil for the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting on Sunday in Newtown, Conn. A gunman walked into the school Friday and opened fire, killing 26 people, including 20 children. STEPHEN DUNN/THE HARTFORD COURANT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Grieving families.

Trip to Connecticut marks the president's fourth visit to a mourning city in the aftermath of a mass shooting

For U.S. President Barack Obama, it was another sorrowful visit to another grieving community full of broken hearts from unimaginable violence.

The spot this time was Newtown, Conn., where on Friday a man opened fire inside Sandy Hook Elementary School. The toll: 26 dead, including 20 boys and girls just six or seven years old.

A mournful Obama said Sunday that the nation is fail-

ing to keep its children safe, pledging that change must come after an elementary-school massacre left 20 children dead.

"What choice do we have?" Obama said. "Are we really prepared to say that we're powerless in the face of such carnage, that the politics are too hard?"

In an interfaith vigil for the fallen at Newtown High School, in a moment of grief that spread around the world, Obama conceded that none of his words would match the sorrow. But he declared to the community of Newtown: "You are not alone."

The president planned a private meeting Sunday afternoon with families of the victims and with emergency personnel who responded to the shootings.

The massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary on Friday elicited horror around the world, soul-searching in the United States, fresh political debate about gun control and questions about the incomprehensible — what drove the suspect to act.

Just last summer, Obama went to Aurora, Colo., to visit victims and families after a shooting spree at a movie theatre in the Denver suburb left 12 dead. He went to Tucson, Arizona, in January of last year after six people were killed and 13 were wounded, including then-representative Gabrielle Giffords, outside a grocery store.

Privately, Obama told Connecticut Gov. Dannel Malloy that Friday was the most difficult day of his presidency.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## School massacre. Leftover ammo suggests an even deadlier plan: Police

The gunman in the Connecticut shooting rampage was carrying an arsenal of hundreds of rounds of especially deadly ammunition — enough to kill just about every student in the school if given enough time, authorities said Sunday, raising the chilling possibility that the bloodbath could have been even worse.

Police said they found hundreds of unused bullets at the school, which enrolled about 450 students in kindergarten through fourth grade.

With so much grieving left to do, many of Newtown's 27,000 people wondered whether life could ever return to normal. And as the work-



Adam Lanza posing for a photo that appeared in the Newtown High School yearbook. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

week was set to begin, parents weighed whether to send their own children back to school.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### More online

Read and see more about the Newton, Conn., school shooting at metronews.ca, including:

- Portraits of shooting victims show lives at their very start, ended in a hail of gunfire.
- The gunman's father speaks of sympathy, heartbreak.
- Many employees at Connecticut school are being hailed as heroes in the wake of the tragedy.
- Police say there's no lingering danger after a bomb threat at a Connecticut church.



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# Victim of school massacre mourned in Winnipeg



Ana Marquez-Greene, right, poses with her family. The six-year-old was shot and killed on Friday in Newtown, Conn. FACEBOOK.COM

**Close to home.** Community offers its love and support to family of Connecticut shooting victim



ELISHA DACEY  
Metro in Winnipeg

Members of a Winnipeg church and school are mourn-

ing a six-year-old girl, described as bright and talented, who died in a horrific school shooting in the U.S. on Friday.

Ana Marquez-Greene was one of 20 children murdered in Newtown, Conn., in a rampage that left 28 dead, including the shooter and his mother. Ana, who moved back to Connecticut with her family after a few years in Winnipeg, was the daughter of University of Manitoba professor Jimmy Greene, an accomplished saxophone player.

Greene issued a statement via his Facebook page this weekend.

"Thank you for all of your prayers and kind words of support," reads the posting that was put up Saturday.

"As we work through this nightmare, we're reminded how much we're loved and supported on this earth and by our Father in heaven. As much as she's needed here and missed by her mother, brother and me, Ana beat us all to paradise. I love you

sweetie girl."

Ana attended Linden Christian School while she lived in Winnipeg with her parents and her brother, Isaiah. Isaiah was also at the school during the shooting but escaped unharmed.

"As a community, let's uphold James, Nelba and their son, Isaiah, as well as the many individuals impacted by this tragedy, in prayer," said Linden Christian principal Rob Charach.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Missing women inquiry

### Oppal to release Pickton report

The closest thing Marilyn Renter has ever had to a trial for her step-daughter's death is the inquiry into the failures that allowed Robert Pickton to target sex workers from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

On Monday, Renter will find out whether her long wait for justice has been answered as Commissioner Wally Oppal releases a report outlining why Pickton wasn't caught sooner and what should be done to prevent similar failures in the future.

For eight months, the inquiry heard from 80 witnesses, including current and former police officers, Crown prosecutors, sex workers, academics and the families of missing women.

The inquiry heard that officers in Vancouver actively resisted considering that a serial killer was in their city, while RCMP in Port Coquitlam were slow to investigate.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Possible contamination

### Frozen-burger recall expanded

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is expanding a nationwide recall of frozen beef burgers that may be contaminated with E. coli bacteria.

The public is now warned not to consume Cardinal Select-brand Prime Rib Beef Burgers sold in 1.13-kilogram packages with a best-before date of July 31, 2013, (UPC 0 63351 01561 1).

The same warning was issued earlier for Butcher's Choice Hickory Barbecue Beef Burgers and Butcher's Choice Garlic Peppercorn Beef Burgers sold at Loblaw stores across Canada.

These recalls are the result of an ongoing food-safety investigation at Cardinal Meat Specialists Ltd. in Brampton, Ont.

On Dec. 5, the Public Health Agency of Canada notified the CFIA about five people who got sick with E. coli in Ontario and Quebec.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# Allegations taint referendum vote

## Egypt's struggle. Ruling party accused of tampering with polling stations

Egyptian rights groups called Sunday for a repeat of the first round of the constitutional referendum, alleging the vote was marred by widespread violations. Islamists who back the disputed char-

ter claimed they were in the lead with a majority of "yes" votes, though official results have not been announced.

Representatives of seven rights groups charged that there was insufficient supervision by judges in Saturday's vote in 10 of Egypt's 27 provinces and independent monitors were prevented from witnessing vote counts.

The representatives told a news conference that they had reports of individuals

falsely identifying themselves as judges, of women prevented from voting and that members of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood were allowed inside polling stations. They also complained that some polling centres closed earlier than scheduled and that Christians were denied entry to polling stations.

The vote is the latest stage in a near two-year struggle

over Egypt's identity since the ouster of longtime leader Hosni Mubarak in a popular uprising. The latest crisis over the Islamist-backed charter evolved into a fight — deadly at times — over whether Egypt should move toward a religious state under Morsi's Brotherhood and their ultraconservative Salafi allies, or one that retains secular traditions and an Islamic character.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A man walks near barbed wire set up by protesters in Tahrir Square in Cairo. AMR NABIL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Civil war. Iran proposes plans to end Syrian bloodshed, backs Assad

Iran is backing presidential elections in Syria as part of a six-point plan outlined Sunday to halt the 21-month civil war in Tehran's main Middle East ally.

The plan, described by state media and Iranian news agencies, also calls for efforts to halt the flow of weapons into Syria and to hold talks that include the government of Syrian president Bashar Assad. Iran in the past has offered initiatives to end the Syrian bloodshed, but none are likely to gain any



Syrian President Bashar Assad  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

momentum with the main rebel forces that view Tehran as discredited by its close ties to Assad. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Japan

#### Right-wing party wins election

Japan's conservative Liberal Democratic Party returned to power in a landslide election victory Sunday after three years in opposition, according to early returns.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Overworked?

#### Clinton suffers concussion

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton sustained a concussion last week after becoming extremely dehydrated and fainting while suffering from a stomach virus, the State Department said.

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## Get Ready for Snow!

The snow season is here and the safety of residents is HRM's top priority.

### HRM's overnight winter parking ban

The overnight parking regulations will be in effect between December 15 and March 31 and will be enforced from 1 a.m. to 6 a.m. during declared snow and ice operations only.

Weather conditions and clearing operations will determine how long an overnight ban will be enforced. This year, HRM is offering residents the option to subscribe to notifications letting them know when the overnight winter parking ban will be enforced. Residents can subscribe to our CityWatch program to receive phone and email messages by emailing [citywatch@halifax.ca](mailto:citywatch@halifax.ca) or by calling **490-7403** with the following information:

- Indicate that you want to sign up for notifications about the overnight winter parking ban.
- Provide up to two phone numbers and up to two email addresses, or a combination of both.

### Provincial legislation

HRM reminds residents that Section 139 of the Motor Vehicle Act requires that people remove their vehicles from the streets, day or night, in the event of a snow or ice event. Vehicles obstructing snow removal or winter maintenance operations can be removed at the owner's cost, regardless of time or date.

To keep up-to-date on all winter operations information including service standards, priority streets, winter parking ban and parking options, visit:

[halifax.ca/snow](http://halifax.ca/snow)



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## BBC Sports awards. Kate attends first function since hospitalization

The pregnant Duchess of Cambridge made her first public appearance Sunday night since her hospitalization for acute morning sickness.

The former Kate Middleton presented awards at the BBC Sports Personality of the Year prizes broadcast in Britain. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



The Duchess of Cambridge presents awards Sunday. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Ikea monkey. Darwin's owner files lawsuit for return of her pet

The owner of Darwin, the monkey in a faux shearing coat who almost wandered into a north Toronto Ikea store, has filed a lawsuit to get her pet back.

Toronto Animal Services captured Darwin last Sunday and transferred him to a primate sanctuary in Sunderland. Yasmin Nakhuda's law-

suit names the sanctuary and alleges they have "unlawfully detained" the monkey.

The suit claims that officials only had the right to issue a ticket, not take the animal. "The bylaw does not have any provisions that allow the officer to withhold returning the pet," said her lawyer. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

# Ontario man's been ready for impending disaster for half a century



Bruce Beach shows off the living quarters in his underground bunker in Horning's Mills, Ont. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

**Bunker.** Whether for the Cuban missile crisis, Y2K or a nuclear catastrophe, Bruce Beach stayed prepared

shelter during the 1982 Falklands War.

But his busiest day was Sept. 11, 2001, when his website was bombarded with 85,000 hits within three hours.

People regularly drop in to seek refuge in the shelter he built in the 1980s, named the Ark Two, which is composed of 42 buried school buses.

The labyrinth, with its kitchens, showers and separate bunk rooms for children and adults, is about 90 kilometres northwest of Toronto, in Horning's Mills.

"People have been in a panic because someone has prophesized the end of the world this particular week or whatever," Beach said.

"They call us up just to make sure we have space in the shelter and I tell them, 'For sure.'" Beach's main concern has always been the threat of nuclear attacks, which he fears are even closer than ever because of Middle East conflicts or Iran.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Don't talk to Bruce Beach about doomsday. He's been preparing for impending disaster for a half-century and has seen apocalyptic agitation come and go, like so many fads.

So forgive him for not panicking over the end of the Mayan calendar on Dec. 21, this coming Friday.

The 78-year-old former high school teacher, who has a huge nuclear bunker, built his first shelter for the Cuban missile crisis in the 1960s.

He was prepared to go underground for the Y2K crisis, amid widespread concern that computer glitches might bring down airplanes in 2000. He received lots of calls from people seeking

headlights. When the cops arrived, they spotted a jeep surrounded by four or five cars, preventing the vehicle from travelling anywhere.

Police say a 41-year-old Windsor man blew three times over the legal blood-alcohol limit. He was arrested for impaired driving.

The vehicle was impounded for seven days and the man's licence suspended for 90 days.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

### Windsor

## Cops charge motorist stopped by citizens

A number of motorists in Windsor corralled a suspected drunk driver until police arrived.

Police say they received calls Saturday night about a vehicle swerving all over the road with no

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# Pitfalls of self-publishing

**Going it alone.** Here are five tips to help you get in on the ebook explosion in 2013

In 2012, Douglas & McIntyre filed for bankruptcy protection, Random House of Canada became the sole owner of McClelland & Stewart, and Penguin and Random House planned to merge.

It's perhaps no surprise that year also saw an explosion in online self-publishing, with a wealth of platforms — including Kobo Writing Life, Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing and iBooks Author — offering authors an alternate avenue.

"We're actually hearing from a lot of different types of authors, some brand new and some successful ... that have had traditional contracts that are just using self-publishing to experiment with new stuff or put books out that they wanted to do on a different cycle than their traditional publishers were," says Libby Johnson McKee, director of Kindle Direct Publishing.

If you have dreams of being a self-publishing sensation in 2013, here are tips on how to stand out:



From left, a Kobo eReader Touch, an Amazon Kindle, an Aluratek Libre Air and a Barnes & Noble Nook are displayed. Platforms that offer authors an alternate way to get published — including Kobo Writing Life, Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing and iBooks Author — have led to a boom in self-publishing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

**1** The moment you start writing the book, begin building your marketing platform.

"The hardest thing about self-publishing is marketing, not writing, and people find this out too late," says author Guy Kawasaki, who has self-published two books and explains how to do so in the newly released APE: Author, Publisher, Entrepreneur — How to Publish Your Book.

He recommends spending two to three hours a day on writing, and one hour a day building a marketing platform on social media sites such as Google Plus, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

**2** It sounds simple, but write a great book (and know your audience).

"Bad books just don't sell," says Johnson McKee. "And if you write a great book and really work hard on getting your message right, the craft of writing is still the thing that wins the day."

Browse blogs of authors in the same genre and understand what fans like to read.

**3** Once the book is written, start crowdsourcing. Get fans, friends, colleagues and others to copy edit and/or review the book. "Do this immediately before it goes on sale, so that

as soon as it goes on sale you have a bunch of great reviews for the book," says Kawasaki (he sent APE in full format to about 1,000 people before he self-published it, and just three days after it went on sale it had about 135 online reviews).

**4** Lure in readers by putting your work on various sites and devices. And create catchy metadata, which includes the cover, title, description, biography, and price.

"People judge a book by its cover, they do, so I would strongly recommend that authors consider using a professional cover designer and investing the time and effort in that," says Mark Lefebvre, director of self-publishing and author relations at Kobo. As with an ebook's text, the cover can also be changed once it's out in digital format.

**5** Write another great book as soon as possible. Lefebvre notes that passionate and dedicated readers will whip through a book and immediately check to see if authors have written anything else.

This rule is particularly important for genre writers, adds Johnson McKee. "Those types of readers are voracious," she says. THE CANADIAN PRESS



## Protesting the privatization of health care

A man holds a dummy depicting a health worker during a demonstration Sunday in Madrid, Spain, against cuts to public health care and the privatization of medical centres and hospitals. In Madrid, doctors have already staged 16 days of strikes and health workers' unions are calling for a third 48-hour strike on Dec. 19 and 20. Around 4,000 operations have been suspended in the city since the medical strikes started. PABLO BLAZQUEZ DOMINGUEZ/GETTY IMAGES

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Exceptions are blood collection at Musquodoboit Valley, Twin Oaks, Eastern Shore Memorial and Hants Community Hospital. These sites close at their regularly scheduled hours. Mt. Uniacke Blood Collection is closed from Dec. 20 to Jan. 1 inclusive. St. Margaret's Bay Blood Collection is closed from Dec. 24 through Jan. 1.

All blood collection clinics are closed Jan. 1.

**Walk-in x-ray services** at all sites will be closed from Dec. 24 at noon through Jan. 2. The one exception is Musquodoboit Valley, where x-ray services will be open Dec. 27, 28 and 31.

If you have urgent blood collection or x-ray needs, please contact your family doctor.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on holiday hours, please visit [www.cdha.nshealth.ca](http://www.cdha.nshealth.ca) and click the 'Holiday Hours' banner.

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# HOLIDAY RANT ENOUGH TO FILL YOUR STOCKING



**URBAN  
COMPASS**  
Stephen Kimber  
halifax@metronews.ca

With the pre-holiday spate of comment-worthy local news and the upcoming holiday lack of venue to vent my inevitable shocked-and-appalled-at-it-all spleen, today's column

will be an assorted stocking stuffer.

**No charges in Home for Coloured Children investigation.** I'm less shocked than I'd like to be. But winning convictions when allegations date back decades, involve children and include little documentary evidence is difficult, perhaps impossible.

That makes the ongoing class-action suit — where the burdens of proof are different — even more significant for the victims, and a full public inquiry vital for all of us.

Who was responsible for creating the conditions that allowed such abuse to continue unchecked? What role did racism play in the lack of official oversight or interest when children came forward with allegations? What can we learn?

It's time the provincial government did the right thing.

**Swastikas, anti-Semitism and the Atlantic Jewish Council.** A few protesters at a recent anti-war rally outside the Halifax International Security Forum carried posters with images of swastikas, equating Israeli attacks on Gaza with Hitler's Nazis.

Atlantic Jewish Council executive director Jon Goldberg was right to condemn the comparison as anti-Semitism. "And any attempt to hold Jews collectively responsible for political actions of the state of Israel," he added, "is anti-Semitism."

Would that groups like the AJC were equally quick to condemn North American Jewish groups' often knee-jerk invocations of anti-Semitism when anyone attempts to criticize the state of Israel for its attacks on Palestinians.

**Province buys Bowater lands.** The Dexter government has completed a complex deal to purchase 550,000 acres of former Bowater Mersey assets for \$1, assume employee-pension liabilities, resell a Bowater biomass power plant and transform the mill into an innovative clean-energy centre.

It appears to be a smart long-term investment protecting our forests, providing employment and creating rural development opportunities. Win, win, win. Finally.

**Savage speaks.** Speaking last week to the Chamber of Commerce, new Mayor Mike Savage talked about everything from the role of universities in our economy to revitalizing downtown Halifax with an iconic legacy project to replace the Cogswell Street Interchange white elephant.

"This is not a building we're talking about," he declared. "This is a community. This is huge."

Vision from a Halifax mayor?

Wow. No wonder Savage got a standing O.

Happy holidays to all.

## Feline find

### Fossils unearthed believed to be from saber-toothed cat

Researchers say a pair of fossils unearthed in the hills north of Las Vegas belonged to a saber-toothed cat.

The Las Vegas Review-Journal reports that a team from California's San Bernardino County Museum identified the fossils dug up in June as being front leg bones from the extinct predator.

Kathleen Springer, the museum's senior curator,

says the saber-tooth fossils are thought to be approximately 15,590 years old.

The discovery marks the first of its kind in the fossil-rich Upper Las Vegas Wash. Springer heads a team that's been studying the wash for a decade and has been collecting fossils there under a contract with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management since 2008.

She says the bones of Las Vegas' only known saber-toothed cat are still being studied. There are no immediate plans to display them, but Springer expects that to happen eventually.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## How much is the doggie made of chains?



NIRIT LEVAV PACKER/REX FEATURES

### Recycled animal art

#### Bicycle chains get upcycled into art

An artist has created a series of incredibly detailed life-size dog sculptures made entirely from bicycle parts.

Israeli-born Nirit Levav Packer's collection includes a full-size greyhound, cocker spaniels and other mutts constructed from recycled bike chains, gears, pedals and even bike seats.

**METRO**

### Element of surprise

#### Metal mutts are not as tough as they look

At the beginning, Packer was pleasantly surprised that her creations weren't as fierce and hard as the chains of metal imply.

"The first dog I made was a Rottweiler, thinking that the rough edges of the broken metal pieces would loan to the dog's tough persona," she said. "But instead I was surprised to have created a sculpture that was more friendly and cute than intimidating." **METRO**

### Emotional representation

#### Innermost thoughts shown through dog

In describing her artwork, Packer defines it as, "excitement, curiosity and fun."

"For me, this art is a reflection of my own emotions," Packer said.

"It's a representation of my thoughts from inside out. I love to weld metal, and these chains are not heavy; (they're) surprisingly soft and flexible. Out of all the materials I use — keys, nails, watches — metal is my favourite." **METRO**

### Artist's viewpoint



"The biggest challenge for me in this art is to capture the expressions that a real dog would typically make. Thankfully, this type of metal is very flexible."

Nirit Levav Packer, 49, of Tel Aviv



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### Twitter

@david\_pate:

White Christmas at Oxford in #Halifax sold out before doors even open! Lots of disappointed movie goers

one of the Halifax Rainmen's home games on feb. 23rd!!!!!! #Cant-BelieveIt!!!!

@JasonRondeau:

Heading to the @HalifaxRainmen game today with the family! Sorry I haven't made it to a game sooner... #halifax

@OhSusannah63:

The Halifax #Oval doesn't open for another week at least- pending cold weather...Dec23rdNeedsToBe-Here

@SamDixon\_123:

Just chosen to sing Oh Canada for

@Vinnnnnnnnnie:

All I want for Christmas is an Urban Outfitters and a Brandy Melville in Halifax Shopping Center.





Leslie Mann stars in *This is 40*, a movie directed by her husband, Judd Apatow. HANDOUT

# Keeping it all in the family

**This is 40.** Leslie Mann talks about working with her children on movies directed by her husband and what middle age is like

NED  
EHRBAR  
Metro World News

Leslie Mann has made quite the career in husband Judd Apatow's movies, playing characters not too different from herself in *Knocked Up*, *Funny People* and now *This is 40*. In fact, much of the squabbling between Mann's Debbie and Paul Rudd's Pete in *This is 40* was cultivated at home, making the film a kind of marriage counselling for the parents of two.

"It's like what I would fantasize about saying to Judd," Mann explains. "Like Debbie can say these things to Pete, but Leslie can't really say these things to Judd. It's fun to have this character to live through."

The film also gives Mann another chance to act alongside daughters Maude and Iris. (Like in *Knocked Up*, Mann and Apatow's real-life daughters co-star as Mann's character's kids.) But there can be trouble when her older daughter tries to take her work home with her, Mann admits.

"It's fun for Maude because we don't allow her to curse at home. I know she does at school," she says. "So it was fun for her to be able to do that at work, which I didn't think was a great idea, but Judd thinks is funny. So

that's fun for her. But then she gets home from work and she tries to say the F-word or whatever and we have to shut her down."

Even with Apatow's brand of bold, uncomfortable comedy, Mann says she's game for anything. Of course, she had to draw the line somewhere, but that point has nothing to do with humorous or embarrassing situations.

"The only thing that made me feel uncomfortable in this movie is a scene with Iris when I'm laying in bed with her because it felt a little invasive," Mann admits. "I don't know why, because I can do anything else, but that for some reason felt a little like it was crossing some boundary. Just because everyone was sitting there watching me with my little girl doing what I do with my little girl, and I

didn't like that."

As for life after 40, the actress — who hit the milestone herself last March — has found it to be a mixed bag.

"I think every day is different. Some days I feel fine and other days I feel like crying all day," she says. "I have lunches with my girlfriends who just turned 40, and some of those lunches we're crying and screaming about our husbands and saying we want to leave them and run away, and then other lunches we're fine and love our husbands and are happy with our lives."

One thing is for sure, though: A sequel about turning 50 would likely be darker.


"I keep asking women who are a little bit older when is this going to pass, and they're like, 'It doesn't pass. It just gets worse,'" Mann says.

## A little on Brooks

Albert Brooks on being a parent in Hollywood




- **Dad.** Albert Brooks, who plays Paul Rudd's leech of a dad in *This is 40*, knows that it can be uniquely difficult to be a parent in Hollywood — especially around awards season. "I've got kids who are 14 and 12, and you try to keep them from going to the actual movies when they go to the movie theatre, but then you let them watch screeners. So we all gathered around and watched *Flight*, and it prompted a discussion of cocaine that I never wanted to have."

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# Putting The Impossible into perspective

**Naomi Watts.** Her latest film on the 2004 South Pacific tsunami left the actress waterlogged and deeply impressed

NED  
EHRBAR  
Metro World News

Naomi Watts has spent a lot of time getting to know Maria Belon, and her esteem for the Spanish woman has in no way diminished. Belon and her family survived the 2004 South Pacific tsunami and went on to inspire Watts' new film, *The Impossible*. (The family has been recast as British for the movie.)

"I was blown away by her," Watts remembers. "Having gone through this experience together and knowing what she went through, you want to hold onto everything she feels and says because you know how close she came. There's something now about her that makes her just understand life better and it's just deeply impressive. I'm full of self-doubt and second-guessing and cynicism. That's another type of human be-



Naomi Watts stars in *The Impossible*, a film about the 2004 South Pacific tsunami. JOSE HARO/SUMMIT ENTERTAINMENT

ing."

Self-doubt aside, Watts could at least relate to Belon as one mother to another.

"I'm not thinking about a tsunami on a daily basis," Watts admits. "I have fears about getting separated from my children just on the subway, you know? You laugh, but I've gone through in my head, 'What would I do?' It's happened on an elevator before. And then you're like,

is your child going to know where to get off? Luckily it's only ever happened in our building, so it's OK. They know the number five. But if it's the subway and you haven't had a conversation about it ... You know, I've actually tried to have the conversation, but it's just too confusing for them."

Filming the harrowing and hazardous scenes taking place in the immediate

aftermath of the tsunami was no picnic for the actress, but she's not one to complain, always remembering to keep things in perspective. Watts remembers one particular scene where she clings to a tree as water rushes past.

"I was there for a long time, but I was anchored with a harness. Still, with the pressure of the water coming, you still had to hang on tight," she says. "But you just

kept reminding yourself, I'm not going to complain. I'm an actor recreating this. There were people who hung onto trees for 10, 12 hours."

Still, that doesn't mean the waterlogged sequence was a walk in the park.

"Physically, it's the most demanding thing I've ever done. Working with water is always going to be tough. I mean, it was five or six weeks in those tanks," she says.

## Taking on the critics

Maria Belon is sick of the critics.

- **Quote.** The filmmakers behind *The Impossible* have come under fire for telling the story of the 2004 tsunami through the eyes of European tourists. But Maria Belon, the Spanish woman upon whom the story is based, has had enough. "I am fed up with the criticisms of it being in English, a British family," Belon says. "I can't understand why people don't understand what the movie is about."

But Tom Holland, who plays her eldest son in the film, seemed to enjoy himself, at least.

"Tom thought it was the most fun he's ever had," Watts says.

"It was like the water park every day, but the scariest possible one. But he's not only a trained athlete but he's 14, and I'm neither of those things."



Holidays can be one of the worst times to be homeless. Ask anyone that's been around for any length of time outside or homeless. When I was sixteen I found myself at Phoenix House. The winter was frigid but I was so frozen by my own self-numbing that frozen feet and unmoveable fingers did not faze me. That year Phoenix introduced me to a warm, in any way you wish to think of it, environment. I will never forget Phoenix at Christmas."

- Lauren, a Phoenix youth

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# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

## The Word



### L.A. Reid axed from X Factor



**THE WORD**  
Dorothy Robinson  
scene@metronews.ca

Considering Demi Lovato and Simon Cowell's contentious behaviour and crazy-side-eyes on this season of The X Factor, it comes as some surprise that it's L.A. Reid who is the first casualty on the judge's panel. The stylishly-dressed music

executive will not be coming back next season for the reality TV show.

"I have the utmost respect for Simon Cowell," Reid said Thursday in a statement. Reid claims he is going back to his job of running the Epic music label. "He is the very best, and I have had the opportunity to learn so much from him. Working with him on X Factor has been a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I'm honoured to have sat on the panel with such incredible talent. Of course, I will miss the show," Reid added. "In my opinion, Simon attracts the best talent, but I'm looking forward to getting back to my core business and the responsibility of running Epic Records."

Season 3 already has the go-ahead by Fox, but there's still no word on if Cowell's co-judges — Demi Lovato and Britney Spears — will be back.



Hugh Grant ALL IMAGES GETTY

### Jon Stewart dubs Grant worst Daily Show guest

Jon Stewart recently revealed that Hugh Grant was the worst guest he'd ever had on The Daily Show and he would "never" be invited back, saying at the Montclair Film Festival last week that Grant was "giving everyone

s— the whole time. He's a big pain in the ass." Well, Grant got the message, posting to Twitter, "Turns out my inner crab got the better of me with TV producer in '09. Unforgivable. J. Stewart correct to give me kicking."

## Twitter



@jtimberlake

Seriously.... The whole Lower East Side of NY looks like Invasion Of The Drunken Santas! I'm not missing out on this next year...



@ElizabethHurley

Hate untangling Xmas lights ...

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**IT'S ALL RELATIVE**  
Kathy Buckworth,  
kathybuckworth.com

As more airlines impose fees for checked bags, travellers are looking for ways to stuff their carry-on bags full and into overflowing overhead

bins. But are you really getting something for free?

The disadvantages to checking a bag is (sometimes) the financial cost, wait times at the baggage carousel or having the bag delayed or lost.

But with a carry-on, downsides include jumping up to wait in line and get on the plane early to secure a bin, (within at least a few rows of your seat) and then hefting a huge bag over your (and others') heads or having to ask



for help to do so.

You're also limited to only 100 millilitres of any liquid (this includes alcohol). Not to mention the jammed in, wrinkled clothes, not having

just the right shoes and pulling the suitcase through miles of airport.

And the time you saved? Your checked in pals used it to read an extra chapter, have another glass or visit the washroom in the airport, prior to boarding. Just make sure you consider the real cost, carefully. **KATHY BUCKWORTH IS AN AWARD WINNING WRITER. VISIT KATHYBUCKWORTH.COM OR FOLLOW KATHY ON TWITTER @KATHYBUCKWORTH**

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# Of wish lists, undesirable gifts and handling high expectations

## Holiday demands.

Christmas is a time of year when it's important to manage your kids' high hopes

**MARY SHELL**

Metro World News in New York

Your children may have wish lists a mile long, but Denise Schipani, author of Mean Moms Rule: Why Doing the Hard Stuff Now Creates Good Kids Later, says that when it comes to gifts, more stuff under the Christmas tree isn't necessarily more satisfying.

"The holidays can be sensory overload for adults. It can be that way for your child, too," she says.

Feeling overwhelmed at your children's overwhelming holiday demands? It's up to you to manage their expectations. They can't temper themselves in the throes of the holidays.

"My kids still believe in Santa Claus, and they make their lists," she says. But Schipani makes sure her kids

understand these are wish lists and not just a rundown of what they'll get. Choosing one thing from the list allows you to surprise your child, she says. "There's a way for them to feel excited about getting stuff without getting greedy about it."

You won't be a Grinch if your child doesn't get everything they desire — not everybody gets everything they want.

"And when your kids ask for something that's too extravagant, Schipani points to a chapter in her book titled: Say 'No.' Smile. Don't Apologize. Repeat as Necessary.

"It's not damaging to say, 'No,'" she reminds.

On the big day, tune in to your kid's experience and how he or she is reacting to unwrapping the gifts. If there's a tantrum or you see your child's eyes glaze over, take note.

"The reason they're doing that might well be that you've overwhelmed them," she says.

And it's equally important to notice when you see your child stop and really engage with a toy. It means you've

## Your relatives

When you can't control the grandparents...

- **Meaningful gifts.** "There are relatives that are not going to listen, no matter what," Schipani says. But try having a conversation with family members before the holidays. Tell them to consider whether gifts are age-appropriate or whether a combination of quality time and a meaningful gift might be better for your child than an iPod or Xbox."

given your child something he or she really enjoys — a gift that's probably sufficient on its own.

Finally, remember to set a good example for your kids and take opportunities throughout the year to remind them of the great things they already have.

Avoid cultivating a "more is better" attitude, she notes. "Model the behaviour that you want to see."



Pay attention to your kids' reactions as they open gifts. ISTOCK

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# Meatballs and Cranberry Marinara get the party started

1. Heat the oven to 425 F. Coat a rimmed baking sheet with cooking spray.

2. In a large bowl, combine the eggs, cilantro, jalapenos, garlic, fennel, oregano, onion powder, red pepper flakes, 2 teaspoons of salt and 1/2 teaspoon of pepper. Whisk until well combined. Add the ground beef, then mix gently

## Ingredients

- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1/4 cup finely chopped cilantro
- 1 tbsp finely chopped jalapeno slices
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tsp fennel seeds
- 2 tsp dried oregano
- 1 tsp onion powder
- 1/2 tsp red pepper flakes
- Kosher salt and ground black pepper
- 3 lbs ground beef (93 per cent lean)
- 14-oz can whole berry cranberry sauce
- 15-oz can diced tomatoes
- Splash of hot sauce



This recipe makes 50 meatballs. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

until completely blended. Divide the mixture into 50 balls, using about 2 tablespoons of the mixture per ball. Arrange the meatballs on the prepared baking sheet.

3. Place the baking sheet in the oven and bake the meat-

balls for 20 minutes. Increase heat to broil and cook for another 1 to 2 minutes, or until lightly browned.

4. Meanwhile, in a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine the cranberry sauce and diced tomatoes. Bring to

a simmer. Season with salt and pepper, and a splash of hot sauce.

5. When meatballs are done, arrange on a platter, then spoon the cranberry mixture over them. Serve with toothpicks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## The In-Credibility Factor

**Name:** Sarah Prevette  
**City:** Toronto  
**Age:** 30  
**Occupation:** Founder and CEO of Sprouter



THE IN-CREDIBILITY FACTOR  
Teresa Kruze  
life@metronews.ca

Sarah Prevette has been hailed as one of the top entrepreneurs in North America. With her work profiled in the Wall Street Journal and Forbes magazine, Prevette is credited with assisting more than 100,000 start-ups around the world through her online company, Sprouter. Sprouter was acquired by the Post Media Network in 2011, but she still runs the company and has started a new venture called BetaKit that is focused on identifying emerging technology trends for Fortune 500 companies.

**I knew I was on my way when ...** someone came up to me and told me how Sprouter had affected their life. It was profoundly moving to have someone give credit to something you had built as a reason for their success. The incredible feedback from the community continues to be a motivating factor for all of us. I hope I can look back one day and say I acted on my ambitions and that I left the world a better place.



Sarah Prevette. PROVIDED

## Leaving a legacy

**"I hope I can look back one day and say I acted on my ambitions and that I left the world a better place."**

Sarah Prevette  
Founder and CEO of Sprouter

## Action Plan

**Don't isolate yourself**  
Get out early, get feedback

and talk to your potential market.

## Adjust your course

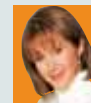
Iterate based on feedback from your potential market and understand it's a continuous evolution of your business.

## Fall in love with the problem, not the solution.

Be focused on the core issue you are trying to solve. You can always change the solution. Don't get caught up in features and functionality.

## Healthy eating

## Choose it and lose it



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What better snack to reach for than popcorn when watching those classic Christmas movies? Just watch those popcorn toppings.

## Kernel's double-butter popcorn (9 cups)

1,380 calories / 42 g fat / 1,800 mg sodium

Double anything usually indicates a red flag. The butter really increases the calories and fat.



## Equivalent

Nine cups of Kernel's double-butter popcorn is equal in fat to 16 Rice Krispie Squares.



## Kernel's butter salt popcorn (9 cups)

409 calories / 21 g fat / 352 mg sodium

The butter salt refers more to seasoning than butter amount as reflected in the calories and fat. Sodium is excellent by comparison.



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# Rainmen pounded at home by visiting Storm

**Shell shocked.** Halifax shoots 27 per cent from field in dismal home showing



**ANDREW RANKIN**  
andrew.rankin@metronews.ca

Joey Haywood didn't mince words assessing his squad's performance after a 113-90 hammering at the hands of the Summerside Storm Sunday afternoon at the Metro Centre.

"That was ugly; really ugly," said the Halifax Rainmen guard, who finished with 13 points.

The fact that Halifax launched five air balls tells a story in itself.

The dismantling started early in the second after the visitors entered the quarter with a 27-17 lead. Apart from a short run where the Rainmen pulled within nine points, the home squad appeared out of sorts, unable to find cohesion on either side of the floor.

"We played like the game was over, like we won already," said Rainmen forward Quinnel Brown, who collected a team-high 22 points. "That's what cost us, guys coming in who are not ready."

Brown also said he was embarrassed for the 2,130 fans who took in the spectacle.

Playing in his home debut,

## Chance for revenge

The Rainmen (7-7) will get a shot at redemption in a road rematch with the Storm Friday at 7 p.m.

## Former Rainmen

### No hard feelings for Robinson

Brandon Robinson showed up to Halifax with his new Summerside Storm teammates harbouring no ill-feelings for the Rainmen.

"They are my brothers; I was with them for two months battling and grinding," said Robinson, who scored 12 points in Sunday's contest.

The Rainmen released Robinson last week, even though he was leading the team in scoring and rebounding. He was soon signed on by the Storm.

Happy with the win, he said he approached the game like any other.

"It's nothing personal," Robinson said. **METRO**

Eric Frederick collected 17 points and four rebounds for Halifax. Though he showed a rounded offensive game, with a solid array of post moves and the ability to hit from the perimeter, Frederick failed to gather rhythm, going 5-for-12 from the field.

Six-foot-eight shooting guard Jason Smeathers, signed over the weekend, played limited minutes, collecting a bucket and three rebounds.

Both Haywood and Brown insist the offensive talent is there. But that offence is rooted in good defence.

"It really comes down to defence making those quick transition plays, one pass shots," said Haywood.



Halifax Rainmen's Quincy Okolie and Summerside Storm's Louis Birdsong battle for possession during National Basketball League of Canada action at the Halifax Metro Centre on Sunday afternoon. **JEFF HARPER/METRO**

# Moose keep rolling even without stars



**Matthew Boudreau** CONTRIBUTED

The Halifax Mooseheads are showing life isn't so bad without Nathan MacKinnon, Jonathan Drouin and Martin Frk in the lineup.

The team capped off a perfect three-games-in-three-nights stretch by outscoring the host Moncton Wildcats 8-6 on Saturday night in Quebec Major Junior Hockey League action.

Halifax, which has been without its three offensive stars since Dec. 10, also beat the Bathurst Titan 4-3 at the Metro Centre on Friday, and took care of the visiting Prince Edward Island Rocket

3-1 on Thursday.

"We wanted to show that we're a good team (without them) and guys really stepped up," Mooseheads coach Dominique Ducharme said of the last three games. "We kept playing the same way and guys that had less ice time took the opportunity given to them."

"It's nice to see the way the guys reacted."

MacKinnon, Drouin and Frk will be gone for up to a month as they play at the world junior hockey championships in Ufa, Russia, starting on Boxing Day.

That means others need to step up in their absence and against Moncton it was the team's new No. 1 line of Matthew Boudreau, Darcy Ashley and Luca Ciampini.

The trio combined for 12 points with Boudreau getting a hat trick, Ashley two goals and three assists and Ciampini four helpers.

Boudreau's three goals now put him in the team-lead with 24. He's also now just one point behind Frk for third in team scoring.

"They got things rolling with the power play early in the game, and getting suc-

cess early like that, it brought energy to the line and also the whole team," Ducharme said of the line's play against Moncton. "They built on that and it just got going. It was nice to see them having that kind of success in a key game." **PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO**

## Next game

Halifax, now 28-3-1-1, is off until Friday when it plays its final game before Christmas, in Saint John against the Sea Dogs.

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# Courting disaster? NHLPA to vote on dissolving union

**NHL.** Lockout talks shift from boardroom to courtroom with no end in sight

A critical vote was set to begin Sunday that will determine if the NHL labour battle moves from the negotiating table to the courtroom.

The players are casting their ballots on whether or not to give their executive board the authority to dissolve the NHL Players' Association.

Doing so would allow the board to file a disclaimer of interest, which is a step toward disbanding the union and giving the players the chance to file anti-trust lawsuits against the league.

Two-thirds of the union's membership must vote in favour of the move over a five-day period that ends Thursday, then the union executive board must respond.

The league has already



Donald Fehr speaks to reporters on Sept. 13 in New York. GETTY IMAGES FILE

taken some pre-emptive action after it filed a class-action complaint on Friday that asked a federal court in New York to make a declaration on the legality of the lockout.

The NHL also filed an unfair-labour-practice charge with the U.S. National Labor Relations Board.

The union was quick to respond with a statement on

Friday night that suggested the league was overstepping its bounds. At that point, it had yet to even be served with the lawsuit.

"The NHL appears to be arguing that players should be stopped from even considering their right to decide whether or not to be represented by a union," it read. "We believe that their position is completely without

## High stakes

By filing the class-action complaint in New York, the NHL guaranteed that the legality of the lockout would be decided in a court known to be sympathetic towards management.

- If the NHLPA files for a "disclaimer of interest" it will seek to have the work stoppage deemed illegal — something that could see players paid triple their lost salary in damages if successful.

merit."

Despite the focus of the lockout shifting from the boardroom to the courtroom, there is nothing preventing the sides from continuing to try to negotiate with one another. They met separately over two days with a U.S. federal mediator this week in New Jersey but failed to make any progress.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## Another win for the Raptors

Houston Rockets guard James Harden drives to the basket against the Raptors' Amir Johnson on Sunday in Toronto. The winning continued for the Raptors — for one game at least. Jose Calderon had 18 points, 10 rebounds and 14 assists to lead the short-handed Raptors to a 103-96 win over the Rockets, marking the first time Toronto has won consecutive games in eight long months. AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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**MANATHLON**

HALIFAX, NS APR 05, 2013

The word "testify" came from the Romans, who used to swear on their #testicles in court.

**@themanathlon**

The Canadian Testicular Cancer Association

[themanathlon.ca](http://themanathlon.ca)



## NFL. Packers lock up NFC North with win over Bears

The Green Bay Packers clinched their second straight NFC North title with a 21-13 victory over the archrival Chicago Bears on Sunday.

James Jones caught all three touchdown passes thrown by the Packers' Aaron Rodgers. Green Bay has now won six straight in the NFL's oldest — and fiercest — rivalry.

The Packers (10-4) have won 12 straight against NFC North opponents, the longest streak in the NFL.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Packers receiver James Jones celebrates one of his three touchdown catches on Sunday in Chicago. GETTY IMAGES

### NFL

### Bills game goes south in Toronto

Rookie QB Russell Wilson rushed for three TDs and threw for another while Earl Thomas returned an interception 57 yards for a touchdown as the Seattle Seahawks beat the Buffalo Bills 50-17 on Sunday at Rogers Centre in Toronto.

It marked the second straight week the Seahawks had scored 50 or more points. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### NFL

### 49ers win a wild one in Foxborough

The San Francisco 49ers earned a playoff berth by withstanding a stunning comeback by New England from a 28-point deficit to beat the Patriots 41-34 on Sunday night in the rain.

New England (10-4) trailed 31-3 at one point and lost for the first time at home in December in 21 games.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Broncos rumble to 9th straight win vs. Ravens

NFL. Denver gets win in Baltimore despite off game from QB Manning

### By the numbers

# 1

For three weeks, Baltimore has needed one win to clinch a fifth straight trip to the playoffs. The Ravens still lead the AFC North, but their lead over the Cincinnati Bengals has shrunk to one game with two to play.

consecutive win against Baltimore, the first with the Broncos (11-3).

But he was merely a role player in this one, because Denver's defence dominated the Ravens, who sputtered in their first game with Jim Caldwell as offensive co-ordinator.

This was supposed to be a test for Denver, which was eager to face a quality opponent on the road.

"Pat Bowlen has owned the team for 29 years and has averaged 10 wins a season, but it's the first time he's won in this building," Broncos coach John Fox said. "I was proud to see that for him."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Broncos defensive end Derek Wolfe tackles Ravens quarterback Joe Flacco on Sunday in Baltimore. GAIL BURTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Cys matter: Jays working on a trade for Dickey

The Blue Jays' rumoured blockbuster acquisition of NL Cy Young Award winner R.A. Dickey seems to have come down to 72 hours of direct negotiation with the player.

After two days of intense talks, the Jays and Mets, according to a Fox Sports report, have an agreement in principle including seven players. The Mets have given Jays general manager Alex Anthopoulos until Tuesday at 2 p.m. to talk to the 38-year-old Dickey, who has one year left on his contract, and work out a two-year extension through 2015.

The knuckleballer is rumoured to be going to the Jays along with his personal catcher, Josh Thole, and an unnamed prospect for catchers Travis d'Arnaud and John Buck, pitcher Noah Syndergaard and another prospect.

d'Arnaud and Syndergaard are the No. 1 and No. 3 prospects in the Jays organization, according to MLB.com.

Thole is a 26-year-old catcher with average abilities other



Cy Young winner R.A. Dickey. ALEX TRAUTWIG/GETTY IMAGES

### Upside out the door?

The 23-year-old d'Arnaud was due to arrive in the majors in 2013. He was the 2011 Double-A Eastern League MVP, and was off to a terrific start in Triple-A this year before suffering a torn left knee ligament in June.

- Noah Syndergaard, 20, was one of the Jays' big three pitching prospects at Lansing in the Class-A Midwest League, posting a 2.60 ERA in 103 2/3 innings with 31 walks and 103 strikeouts.

million US, but were looking to lock up the Nashville native for another two seasons. Foiled, they decided to explore a trade.

The Jays have already examined Dickey's medical records, but all players involved would have to pass medicals before any trade becomes official.

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## Horoscopes

### Aries

**March 21 - April 20**

Thinking about what might have been is a complete waste of time. You will always get the chance to do things in the future that make up for what you did, or did not do, in the past. Why worry?

### Taurus

**April 21 - May 21**

You are in a can-do mood at the moment and that's good because the planets indicate that if you make an effort, the results will be spectacular. Jupiter in the money area of your chart could make you a fortune!

### Gemini

**May 22 - June 21**

Anything is possible if you want it enough — yes, anything. Identify what it is you most want to accomplish then just go for it, and ignore those who say you are being irresponsible. What do they know? Nothing!

### Cancer

**June 22 - July 23**

If there is something you wanted to finish but for one reason or another failed to see through to the end, don't worry, you'll get another chance. Is it the last chance? Maybe not, but do you want to risk it?

### Leo

**July 24 - Aug. 23**

You can sense that if you want to make changes to your lifestyle you are going to have to make them soon. You have spent enough time thinking and planning, now you must act. It's now or never.

### Virgo

**Aug. 24 - Sept. 23**

Don't think about what you intend to do. Just do it and let the situation unfold according to its own momentum. The year is too old to make detailed plans. Just take each day, and moment, as it comes.

### Libra

**Sept. 24 - Oct. 23**

Try not to tie yourself down to tasks and chores that can be done at any time. Jupiter in your fellow Air sign of Gemini urges you to be adventurous today. Go some place you have never been to before.

### Scorpio

**Oct. 24 - Nov. 22**

It might be wise not to get too involved in something your friends are clearly enthused about. Don't worry that you might be missing out. On the contrary, you're making time for more important things.

### Sagittarius

**Nov. 23 - Dec. 21**

It may be a bit too easy to lose your sense of perspective today as mind planet Mercury opposes Jupiter in your opposite sign. Something will annoy you for sure but you don't have to take it seriously.

### Capricorn

**Dec. 22 - Jan. 20**

You should be promoting yourself for all you are worth, not only because you are worth more than your rivals but because you have something valuable to offer. Leave your mark on the world and make it a big one.

### Aquarius

**Jan. 21 - Feb. 19**

You won't lack for courage or confidence today but you must make sure they are well directed. This is the perfect time to take a creative endeavour to a higher level. Believe you can do it and you'll find a way.

### Pisces

**Feb. 20 - March 20**

If you have promised to do something for a loved one then you must do it — immediately. Yes, of course, you did not realize that other factors would come into play but that's irrelevant. Promises must be kept. **SALLY BROMPTON**

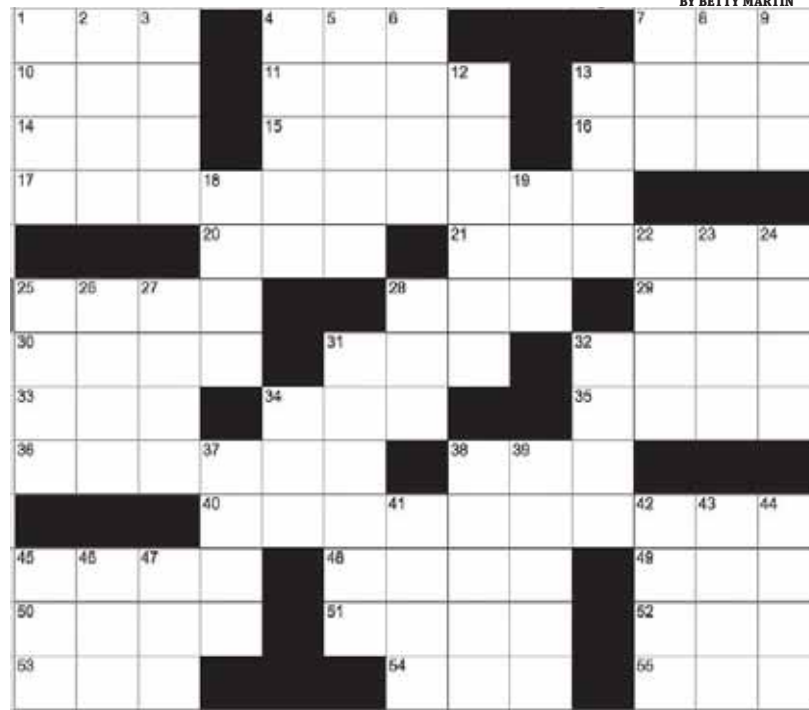
## Crossword

### Across

- Droop in the middle
- Vacation spot
- School org.
- Airport listing
- Fake fanfare
- Gait
- Follower (suffix)
- Strong handsome horse
- "Panic —"
- On the up and up
- Matter, in law
- Aftershock
- Take from the top
- L.A. Law actress Susan —
- Gardner of Hollywood
- Zing
- Nickname for comedian Bill
- Shut the door forcefully
- Founded (abbr.)
- Touch lightly
- Jazz great Fitzgerald
- Front runner
- Dutch city
- Give a hand to
- Group
- Dublin's land
- The Naked Truth actress Leoni
- of Green Gables
- Squeal
- Flub
- To soak
- Snake sound
- Unruly crowd

### Down

- Leave port
- Comic actor Johnson
- "Little Miss Sunshine" actor Kinnear
- Aver
- French capital
- Sandler or Baldwin
- In favour of

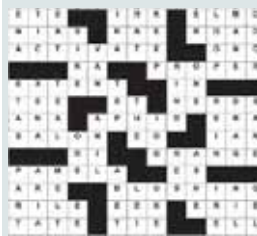


BY BETTY MARTIN

- Close for Comfort
- Banking machine (abbr.)
- Wanes
- "A — Grows in Brooklyn"
- Take the creases out
- Attempt
- Shopping mecca
- Racetrack shape
- Hindu deity
- Rod accompaniment

- Threat ending
- Computer input
- Speck
- Kind of beetle
- Grain
- Vigor
- Title for Judi Dench
- Noblemen
- Some showdowns
- Perjures
- Discussion point
- Roman Emperor
- Clothing
- Road surface
- Compass bearing (abbr.)
- Picnic pest

## Friday's Crossword



## What's online

See today's answers  
metronews.ca/  
answers.



## Sudoku

### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

## Friday's Sudoku

5	9	1	8	4	2	0	3	7
3	2	6	7	1	5	9	8	4
8	7	4	6	3	0	5	2	1
1	5	7	3	9	6	8	4	2
2	4	9	1	5	8	3	7	6
6	3	8	4	2	7	1	9	5
4	1	2	5	6	3	7	6	9
7	6	5	9	0	4	2	1	3
8	6	3	2	7	1	4	5	8

6			5	1	3			2
					2	7		
	1	2	4			6		
1	8		7		9	3		4
2								9
7		3	8		4		5	6
		5			7	9	6	
		1	2					
8			3	9	5			1

**Today**

2°/0°  
Variable

**Tuesday**

3°/1°  
Rain  
80%

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DARTMOUTH HYUNDAI  
**ENDS DEC. 31**

**NO PAYMENTS UNTIL APRIL 2013**



## 2013 SANTA FE

2013 AJAC BEST NEW SUV  
(OVER \$35K.)

SAVINGS  
**\$1,150**

BI WEEKLY  
**\$143**

LOYALTY BONUS  
**\$750**



O'REGAN'S CHRISTMAS CASH

**\$500**



## 2013 TUCSON

SAVINGS  
**\$2,000**

BI WEEKLY  
**\$121**



O'REGAN'S CHRISTMAS CASH

**\$500**



## 2013 ELANTRA GT

2013 AJAC BEST NEW  
SMALL CAR (OVER \$21K)

SAVINGS  
**\$1,850**

BI WEEKLY  
**\$102**



O'REGAN'S CHRISTMAS CASH

**\$250**



## 2013 ELANTRA

2012 CANADIAN & NORTH  
AMERICAN CAR OF THE YEAR

SAVINGS  
**\$2,000**

BI WEEKLY  
**\$84**



O'REGAN'S CHRISTMAS CASH

**\$250**



## 2012 NEW AND DEMO CLEAROUT

\*PLUS \$500 CHRISTMAS CASH, WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

- >> 2012 SONATA LIMITED/NAV  
WAS \$33,365, SAVINGS \$5,000, NOW \$28,365 AND \$167/BIWEEKLY
- >> 2012 SONATA 2.0T LIMITED  
WAS \$34,065, SAVINGS \$4,000, NOW \$30,065 AND \$177/BIWEEKLY
- >> 2012 SONATA HYBRID PREMIUM  
WAS \$35,667, SAVINGS \$3,450, NOW \$32,217 AND \$175/BIWEEKLY
- >> 2012 SONATA GL 6SP MANUAL  
WAS \$24,365, SAVINGS \$4,000, NOW \$20,365 AND \$120/BIWEEKLY
- >> 2012 VELOSTER AUTOMATIC  
WAS \$21,994, SAVINGS \$2,000, NOW \$19,994 AND \$118/BIWEEKLY



## 2013 SONATA GL

SAVINGS  
**\$3,500**

BI WEEKLY  
**\$135**



O'REGAN'S CHRISTMAS CASH

**\$500**



Christmas cash with O'Regan's financing, prices and payments include freight and p.d. taxes and fees excluded. 2012's while supplies last. No payments for 10 days from contract date.



**O'REGAN'S**  
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